

Give the gift of story on screen with REEL Wednesdays tickets

SUBMITTED BY THE FRIENDS OF THE SPRUCE GROVE PUBLIC LIBRARY

It's the gift that keeps on giving. Stuffing stockings with REEL Wednesdays movie tickets also means a gift of support for the Spruce Grove Public Library (SGPL). Movie passes for the REEL Wednesdays fundraisers in February, March and April 2019 are now on sale at the SGPL at a price of \$35 for the three-pack or \$13 each.

"We're very excited about the movies we have chosen for the spring season," says Karen Gron, REEL Wednesdays volunteer. The highly acclaimed *What They Had* (14A) starring Hilary Swank and Blythe Danner hits the Landmark Cinema screen on February 20. "It's a poignant and sweet story about a family who draws closer when illness threatens to tear it apart," she says.

March 20 brings *Shoplifters* (14A) to Spruce Grove. "It's our first Japanese sub-titled selection about a family of small-time crooks who take in a child they find on the street," says Gron. The series continues April 17 with *If Beale Street Could Talk* (14A), a love story that is generating a lot of critical buzz.

Gron says audience members always ask how the REEL Wednesdays volunteers choose the movies. "We rarely have an opportunity to see the movie before it is shown, so we rely on reviews and recommendations. Most of the time, we sit and enjoy the movie for the first time with everyone else."

REEL Wednesdays fundraisers have been organized by the Friends of the SGPL for more than five years. But for those who may not have had the opportunity to enjoy the event, Gron has some added information.

"The movies have become a social event," she says. "We greet everyone at the door with coupons and information. There are door prizes before each movie. It's really a chance to catch up with old friends or make new ones."

Landmark Cinema offers a discount on a popcorn/pop combo. Jack's Drive-In and Famoso distribute coupons for their establishments. Long-time sponsor Liquor on McLeod offers a free wine and cheese event prior to each movie.

"It's because of our community-minded sponsors that we are able to keep ticket prices low," says Gron. Returning sponsors for spring 2019 include Zender Ford, Rotary Club of Spruce Grove, Main Street Law, Creative Color and Kedra Transport.

A new sponsor in 2019 is OK Tire, owned and operated by Scott and Elaine Forsyth. "We are so pleased they have come on board. We hope you will show your appreciation by supporting them and our other sponsors," says Gron.

REEL Wednesdays is organized by the Friends of the Spruce Grove Public Library, who raise funds and voices for the love of libraries. For further information, e-mail friends@sqpl.ca or join the REEL Wednesdays discussion group on Facebook.